

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

✓ Please replace the paragraph starting on page 28, line 19 with the following paragraph:

B<sup>1</sup>  
Internet protocol may allow a plain offset value to link the next packet fragment to the previous packet fragment within the frame. The continuing packet fragment(s) do not generally need internal header data repeated since the packet fragment(s) reside in a single SONET/SDH frame ~~100~~ 200 and are transmitted in sequence within a synchronous frame.

✓ Please replace the paragraph starting on page 29, line 16 with the following paragraph:

B<sup>2</sup>  
The frame 200 may permit filling of a fixed size payload area of SONET/SDH with data packets along with fixed bandwidth channels such as T1/T3. The frame ~~100~~ 200 may reduce and/or eliminate bandwidth limitations imposed on data packets in fixed bandwidth channels.

✓ Please replace the paragraph starting on page 30, line 14 with the following paragraph:

Referring to FIG. ~~12~~ 11, an example of the SONET/SDH payload envelope 200 (e.g., transmitted every 125μS) divided into variable length packets is shown. The header 202 may comprise one or more of the following parameters: (i) packet length, (ii) length of CRC (Cyclic Redundancy Check), (iii) payload identifier header to describe the nature of packet, (iv) route labels that may help route packet inside network, (v) payload header CRC, (vi) actual payload, and/or (vii) payloads CRC.